

I am writing to suggest that you reject the petition put forth by the conventional broadcasters (NAB 04-160). I cannot believe that you are even considering such a patently self-serving piece of "legislation." The National Association of Broadcasters represents fewer and fewer radio and television stations as more and more of America's airwaves come under the control of fewer and fewer corporate owners.

I am here to tell you that XM Satellite Radio is a godsend. I travel extensively in my car and now, instead of being forced to a.) either listen to the abominable AM broadcasting which fills the voids in America's heartland, or b.) books on tape, I am able to partake of a veritable feast of radio broadcasting - of all stripes, all persuasions, all types of music and sports and, blessedly now, weather and traffic reports.

Satellite radio has been a blessing. There is, once again, variety of programming and I, for one, applaud the vision of its founders.

The NAB, the bastion of self-serving broadcast luddites, has decided that its members are the only source of weather and traffic reports. They ignore the internet -- which you cannot regulate -- and are instead taking on the satellite broadcasters.

The behavior of the NAB has been for generations now "against" everything: first, Television; then FM radio; then the television arm has managed to block digital television and fought cable for so long (and to no avail) and now they are "agin" satellite broadcasting providing a service which they cannot provide to audiences they cannot reach.

I respectfully urge you to allow XM Satellite Radio to do what serious broadcasters have done since KDKA went on the air all those years ago: serve the public's interest, convenience and necessity.

Until you can assure me that I will be able to hear LOCAL broadcasts of weather and traffic EVERYWHERE I am traveling, please leave XM Satellite Radio alone!

Why don't you focus your attention, instead, on the boorish standards now set by a once proud industry. Newton Minow was correct: it is one vast wasteland out there with one (actually two, but I'm an XMSR subscriber AND shareholder) bright shining ray of hope: satellite broadcasts.